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John Kean to Susan Kean, May 14-15, 1788

John Kean

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Dear Mother & Sister Charleston May 14th 88.

Thus far am I on my way to my beloved - soon
I hope to press to my bosom the woman of my heart.
The convention I hope will not detain me more than
a fortnight - I have not been to it yet - I am just
arrived after being at sea a day & a night on the
passage but I am not sensible of any ill consequence.
15th

This day has blessed me with my Susan's letters
to the 27th April - the joy I feel at hearing of your
health & the well being of our son is inexpressible.

We are hard at work from nine in the
morning until three or four in the afternoon in the
convention what the result will be it is impos-
sible to say - the opposition is considerable - but
it is the opposition of ignorance & prejudice - for
the able & tried men in our government are for
it - this gives me hope that we shall accept

the new constitution - our back country which
is made up of Irish & Virginians are mostly
opposed to it - if the matter was to be decided
by the natives of Carolina I imagine we
should have it six to one - but this mass
of heterogeneous matter I cannot answer
for - the immense debt due by the people
of this state has its bad effects also, as they
are afraid of never more obtaining the inter-
position of government in favor of the
creditor - however I have not yet lost
all hope - especially as there are now seven
States who have acceded -

I never expected much from it - nor
can I say that I have had much hope since I
left Congress, as most of my friends left it with
me - but perhaps it is the best thing that
could happen for me not to get the appointment.

The Carriage to be sure cannot be equal to a new one & if my love does not like it we will get a new one to bring home with us -

I am sorry you cannot get such a house as you like - but I think we had better continue in lodgings than take a house for twelve months.

I am glad to hear that J.R. will have no objection to holding the property for you. I shall not involve myself at all I have paid the whole purchase money except £100 Sterling & that I shall find no difficulty in paying when it is due.

If J.R. could assist us with the money for his bond or a part of it, I should be well pleased if not, we must try & negotiate his bond so as to make it answer our purposes -

I send you a few roots of the jonquil double & single they flower with us in December & January - also a few birds - Madame De La Forest

I find has received those I sent her - she has got a
petite fille she informs me -

I find you have delivered my letter to
Otto - he speaks feelingly on the subject -

Elliott sails in about ten days for
New York & Strong for Philadelphia in one or
the other of these, I shall be wafted to my love
if the convention will permit -

Make my best & kindest remembrance to
all the family -

Your desire for young orange trees came
too late & no more of the Potatoe powder is to
be procured at this season -

Adieu my love -

Kiss your dear little boy - I long to see him
very much - but my Susan more -

Heaven bless you -

Yr affect^e husband.

Charleston
May 19th 88

John Bran